

CENTRAL NEWS

June 2017

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Principal's Message

School Year Synopsis

Greetings Stratford Central!

The students at SCSS should be proud of their accomplishments this past school year. Once again, students at our school participated in a variety of events in large numbers. Roughly 60-70% of the student body participated in outside-class activities related to the arts, athletics, academics (contests), and/or in clubs.

In terms of milestones this past year, please consult the following list:

- * 46 international students joined the ranks of SCSS this past year
 - * an international club lead by teachers combining international students and students from community central embarked was created
 - * mental wellness was a school focus
 - * mental wellness activities included yoga, meditation, creation of the "ZenDen", the "Be" t-shirt campaign, the poster campaign, mental wellness week, dog friendly Fridays, focus group with the Stratford Family Health team
 - * wall murals welcoming our international students, as well as capturing student voice on "well-being" at SCSS
 - * an outside mural created by students for the front of the school
 - * various art shows and student created art being displayed in the cafeteria
 - * student involvement in various shows throughout the year including SEARS
 - * student involvement in various bands and events that showcased the band
 - * student involvement and success at Huron-Perth, WOSSA, OFSAA in athletics
 - * student involvement in various trips including overseas
 - * student involvement in robotics competition
 - * student involvement and success in poetry contests
 - * student involvement and success on math contests in each grade
 - * improvement on school OSSLT results by 6%
 - * maintaining high scores on grade 9 math EQAO results
 - * student and teacher participation in a world-wide project called New Pedagogies for Deeper Learning
 - * having students selected to participate in various enrichment projects over the summer
 - * student involvement in the design and modification of the cafeteria area
 - * student involvement in the community such as training seniors on how to use an iPad
 - * student involvement in the community with cooperative education, job shadowing programs and dual credit programs with various colleges
 - * a 97+% success rate on passing courses !
- etc....

A BIG thank you to the school staff at SCSS for providing these learning opportunities, leadership opportunities and growth opportunities for our students. Thank you for your time, patience and expertise in guiding our students. A BIG thank you to the students for participating so well at this school! School culture thrives when students participate.....well done SCSS !

Departing Staff Members

The following teachers will not be at SCSS next year:

Ms. Hammell
Ms. Dalgliesh
Mr. Fisher
Ms. Cressman

Ms. Hartley
Ms. VanLeeuwen

We thank these teachers for their service at the school and wish each of them the best of luck in the future.

In addition both Mr. Richardson (VP) and Mr. MacSorley (co-Principal) will be moving on. Mr. MacSorley will be the Principal of Listowel Eastdale and Mr. Richardson will be the Principal of St. Marys DCVI after 6 years here. We thank both these gentlemen for their service and also wish both of them well with future endeavours.

New Staff Members Coming to SCSS

Mr. Moore (Music and English)
Mrs. Wilson (CWS and Social Science)
Mr. Baxter (Science and Physics)
Mr. Bannerman (Vice-Principal)
Mr. Simmons (Vice-Principal)

We look forward to working with these teachers and administrators in September.

Have a safe and happy summer !

Regards,
Kevin Mills, Principal

Dates to Remember 2017-2018

Tues., Sept. 5 - First Day of Classes
Fri., Sept. 29 - Professional Development Day
Mon., Oct. 9 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday
Fri., Nov. 3 - Professional Development Day
Fri., Nov. 24 - Commencement 7:30pm
Fri., Dec. 1 - Professional Development Day
Dec. 25-Jan. 5 - Christmas Holidays
Jan. 26-Feb. 1 - Semester I Final Exams
Fri., Feb. 2 - Professional Development Day
Mon., Feb. 5 - First Day of Semester II
Mon., Feb. 19 - Family Day Holiday
Mar. 12-16 - Spring Break
Mar. 30-Apr. 2 - Easter Holidays
Fri., Apr. 27 - Professional Development Day
Mon., May 21 - Victoria Day Holiday
Fri., June 8 - Professional Development Day
June 22-28 - Semester II Final Exams

For more dates to remember, please refer to our Calendar found on our website - www.stratfordcentral.ca

Student Services

Summer School: Summer School will be held at Northwestern SS, July 4-21 from 9:00am - 12:00 noon. Students who are one or two credits short of graduation are eligible to take a summer Co-op OR a course through the Centre for Employment and Learning.

Community Service Hours: Students are encouraged to work on community service hours during the summer. Please keep in mind that these hours must be at non-profit events or with non-profit organizations. Forms are available in Student Services. Some students have been volunteering at businesses and these hours will not count toward the 40 required hours. Please see Mr. Cassone, Mrs. Donnelly or Mrs. Brine if you have any questions.

Timetable Adjustments: Appointments are available from August 28- August 31. Please call Bonnie Fawcett at the school (519-271-4500 x418) on or after August 23 to book an appointment with a guidance counsellor. It is highly recommended that students see a counsellor in August and do not wait until September if they are looking to change a timetable.

Liaison Visits: University and College liaison representatives will be in the school in September and October. We schedule these sessions during the lunch hours whenever possible so that students do not miss class. Students and parents are encouraged to visit universities and colleges during the summer. Tours can be booked online or by phone.

Online Courses: Students are able to take online courses throughout the summer or during the 2017-18 school year. Students are encouraged to book an appointment with their counsellor to discuss options if this is of interest.

Websites:

www.myblueprint.ca (Interest Inventories and other post secondary tools)

www.successforlife.ca (Board Info - OYAP, apprenticeship, dual credits, SHSM, ...)

www.electronicinfo.ca (University programs in Ontario)

www.ontariocolleges.ca (College programs in Ontario)

www.studentawards.com (Scholarships)

www.jvis.com (Interest inventory - pay site)

The school website: <http://scss.amdsb.ca/> (go to For Students, then Student Services) will provide many other links for student planning.

Experience Canada 150

Anna Desak and Sarah Frank will get the chance to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday in Ottawa! Anna and Sarah have both been selected to be part of a group of 150 students from across the nation for an all expenses paid trip to Ottawa.

Their nine-day tour, which began Saturday, June 24th, will be highlighted by making presentations at the National Canada 150&Me Youth Forums. The students will be speaking in front of an impressive audience, including Gov. Gen. David Johnston, Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde, and author and historian Charlotte Gray.

Some notable events throughout the rest of the week include volunteering as part of a BioBlitz, organized by the Friends of Gatineau Park, planting and maintenance at Gloucester Community Gardens, visiting the Canadian Museum of Nature and museum of history – the facilities' CEOs will personally welcome the group – and the National Gallery of Canada.

The Stratford Central classmates earned spots on the trip by submitting projects focusing on what Canada can improve on over the next 150 years. They took on the optional assignment in February at the suggestion of their Grade 9 Geography teacher, Jen Dowson.

Anna wrote an essay and created a piece of art with pen. She called her entry "Destruction of Us," which focused on the use of neonics in Canada and its controversy with the bee population. Sarah produced a video, entitled "36 Million Differences," focusing on the importance of inclusion.

We are proud of these young women and can't wait to hear about their experiences in Ottawa!



Transportation Services



Just a reminder to all Parents/Guardians, if your child(ren) is(are) eligible for transportation you are responsible for looking up your child(ren)'s busing information for the 2016/2017 school year. The busing information for the 2017/2018 school year will be available on the Huron Perth Student Transportation website (www.ourschoolbuses.ca) mid-August. Please check the Huron Perth Student Transportation Services website frequently in the last week leading up to the first day of school as routes and times change daily during the last week.

To look up your child's bus information:

- Go to the Huron Perth Student Transportation Services website at <http://ourschoolbuses.ca/busplanner-web/>

Once you have entered the website:

- Select the "Busplanner Web" icon
- Then select "Student Login" (Make sure you have selected the correct school year from the drop down arrow box in the top left hand corner of the page before you make any selections)

You will need the following to login:

- **Ontario Education Number (OEN)**
- This can be found on your child's latest report card and should have 9 numbers
- **Only include the numbers – do not include hyphens**
- If the report card only has 8 numbers then include a zero 0 before the 8 numbers
- **Date of Birth (Year/Month/Day)** (birthdate order format may be different on each computer)
- **House Address Number or 9-1-1 Address**
i.e. for a home address of 4602 Line 32 use only 4602

• **School Name**

- The School that the child will be attending in September 2017

• This can be selected from the pull-down list

When you gain access to the portal, you will be able to see such information as your **child's eligibility** for bus transportation, the **Bus Route Number, approximate morning pick-up time and location, approximate afternoon drop-off time and location, transfer bus information, School Bus Company** and more.



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